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***THE LIBRARIAN'S OPPORTUNITY**

SARAH C. N. BOGLE, Assistant Secretary, American Library Association

Every time I think of it, I have a higher and more exalted opinion of the calling which we librarians have chosen. Librarianship is, of course, an honorable profession. It is one on which all other professions depend and it is worthy of the best endeavor of the individual, of the united effort of all the members of the profession and of the respect of all classes of society.

To no other group of individuals, it seems to me, to no other profession is given such power, such privileges, such opportunity for service as to the librarians of today. To meet all these, there must be a high professional spirit.

**Extracts from address given at Minnesota Library Association, Christmas Lake, September 5th.*

A high professional spirit calls for sound training, clear ethical standards, and sustained enthusiasm for the fellowship of librarians.

The history of library development in America is, it seems to me, the history of the American Library Association, or, if you wish to put it the other way, the history of the American Library Association is the history of library development in America. Now, what in brief is that history? Remember, it is a history covering a period of fifty years only, or a little more. This is the way it came: First there was a philosophy—a body of knowledge. Then, a theory, or the explanation of the philosophy and the principles or fundamental truths and then, finally, practice. That is rather a nice development for a period of fifty years. During these fifty

years, of course, there were men and women with strong qualities of leadership, but people with qualities of leadership are just as much needed, and even more so, at this critical stage.

It seems that at the present time all groups concerned with education and the advancement of civilization are seeking leaders. It might not be out of place here to quote from the Supplement to the Educational Record of January, 1928, volume 8, number 1, supplement 6, published by the American Council on Education, Washington, D. C.

"One must even question whether there has yet been formulated a definition of leadership acceptable to the scientific mind. A recent definition is acceptable for our purpose. Leadership is the name for that combination of qualities by the possession of which one is able to get something done by others, chiefly because through his influence, they are willing to do it."

The twelve items which state the characteristic things a leader does are:

1. Sees a vision of achievement
2. Grasps the significant features of the situation
3. Determines what must be done to realize the vision
4. Concentrates on the necessary work
5. Sticks to the job
6. Inspires others to help him
7. Relates his work to theirs
8. Enjoys the humorous side of things
9. Pursues the vision as it recedes and changes
10. Creates new ways to master difficulties
11. Treats others as he would have them treat him
12. Worships the Lord his God

If leaders are needed, so are followers. The opportunities of a librarian are constantly broadening through work in a variety of channels: in adult educational work, children's work, school work, publicity, institutional libraries, hospital service, and in the small library is found the best opportunity of all for all around work.

"If one were to ask an intelligent and well informed foreigner as to the most important contribution of the American people to human enlightenment, the answer would be, 'The American public library,' was the recent statement of the President of one of our very important foundations.

Older nations have greater intellectual riches, it may be, but this young country of ours has found the way to make these riches available.

In any republic the majority of the people naturally and probably justly are

but little inclined to submit their opinions to the judgment of a special intellectual class, so it is absolutely essential that the mass of people be intelligent.

And yet no system of education does more than assist the individual to educate himself. Does not the individual do this largely through the medium of books? Have you every rightly considered what the mere ability to read means? and then what our opportunity is in helping people to find what to read.

Let us not go on until we recall what Arnold Bennett says: "He who has not been presented to the freedom of literature has not wakened up out of his prenatal sleep. He is merely not born. He can't see, he can't hear, he can't feel in any sense. He can only eat his dinner. The spirit of literature is undying; it joins the candle and the star and by the magic of an image shows that the beauty of the greater is in the less."

During the past fifty years, men and women have given of their best to this comparatively new calling. They have quietly, steadily, generously, and unselfishly given of themselves, and when this happens something which is, and I say it reverently, sacramental, enters the service. Somewhere, somehow, on the high altar, there burned for those who preceded us an enduring fire, and they saw ever living, ever glowing the divine light. To us is shown the gleam, and may we so see it and so follow it, and so tend it, that it may spread into the broad glow of universal understanding. To this group, and to similar groups, comes a great opportunity.

Where are we going? Where shall our opportunity lead us? You know and I know that we are going forward steadily, humbly, earnestly, toward our goal. Librarians, trustees, friends of libraries, individually and unitedly, through our associations are moving steadily onward—our objective—library service to all our people.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Calendar

Midwinter Meetings—Chicago, December 30-31, 1929, Drake Hotel.

Annual Conference—Los Angeles, California, June 23-28, 1930. Headquarters will be at the Biltmore Hotel.

Library Extension Institute—Madison, Wis., June 30-July 18, 1930. A rural library extension institute will be held under the auspices of the A. L. A. Committee on Library Extension, in connection with the annual Rural Leadership Summer School at the College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin.

Courses are for experienced, professional librarians. Students will be expected to carry the course in Rural Sociology in the Rural Leadership School (with a third week of special application to library extension) and may choose one more in that school (as "Sociology of Community Life," "Farm Relief Programs," "Adult Education in Rural Communities.") Two library courses will be given, covering state and county library extension.

TWIN CITY LIBRARY CLUB

The autumn gathering of the Twin City Library Club was a dinner meeting held at 6:30 P. M. November 5, 1929, at Dayton's University Tea Room, commonly known as the Tent. There were 128 present.

Before the dessert, the president, Mr. Harold Russell, announced that Miss Countryman would introduce to the Club her guest Mr. Francis K. W. Drury of the A. L. A.

Mr. Drury who was in the Twin Cities in the interest of Adult Education, besides remarks on that subject, spoke also of the growth of the million dollar fund.

When the pumpkin pie and coffee were gone, Mr. Russell introduced the speaker of the evening Dr. Phillips E. Osgood, rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Minneapolis. His address, "What! drama in the church?" was of great interest to the Club.

A short business session followed. The reading of the minutes was omitted. The report of the treasurer which was accepted, showed a balance on hand of \$78.85.

Resolutions on the death of Miss Ruth Wright were read by Miss Amy Moon, chairman of the Resolutions committee and accepted. The other members of the Committee were Miss Edna Goss of the University of Minnesota Library and Miss Ruth Rosholt of the Minneapolis public library. Mr. Russell brought to the attention of the Club the Wright Memorial Fund recently established which is to provide scholarships in the Pratt library school.

The report of the nominating committee which consisted of Miss Trimble, University of Minnesota, Miss Augusta Starr, Minneapolis Public Library, and Miss Myra Buell, St. Paul Public Library was read and accepted.

The officers elected for 1930 are: President, Miss Helen Starr; Vice president, Miss Edna Goss; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Marabeth Hobbs.

I. CHARLOTTE CAMPBELL
Secretary-Treasurer

Resolutions

Whereas: In the death of Ruth M. Wright on June 3rd, 1929, the Twin City Library Club lost a faithful member, one who was always active and interested in the affairs of the association, be it

Resolved: That we herewith record our deep sorrow, and our appreciation of her devoted service to the library profession.

Miss Wright was graduated from the Pratt Institute Library School in 1903. She held positions in several libraries, coming from the Newark Public Library in 1925 to take the position of Reference Librarian in the James Jerome Hill Reference Library. Although she had not lived long in St. Paul she had made many warm friends and was active in all library affairs, having been an officer of this society. The rare charm of her character, her fine spirit of helpfulness, her broad sympathy, and her valuable services to the library profession make her death a lasting sorrow to her personal friends and a great loss to the library community of the two cities.

And be it resolved: That these expressions be conveyed to Miss Wright's brothers and sister and be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

AMY C. MOON, Chairman
EDNA L. GOSS

RUTH M. WRIGHT MEMORIAL FUND

Some friends who have had the privilege of knowing Ruth Wright intimately, both professionally and personally wish to express in a permanently useful way their recognition of the rich contribution which she made to the library profession and their appreciation of the strength and beauty of her rare personality.

Believing that there are many others who might wish to take part in the memorial to Miss Wright, the Ruth M. Wright Memorial Fund Committee has been organized. The Committee has decided that the most fitting form for the memorial to take is that of a loan fund to be administered by the Pratt Institute School of Library Science, the school which Miss Wright attended, for the benefit of students preparing to enter the profession to which she devoted her life.

Pratt Institute has agreed to accept the fund and to devote it to the purposes described by the Committee. All who wish to share in this memorial are invited to send their contributions, to the Treasurer, Helen K. Starr, James Jerome Hill Reference Library, St. Paul, Minnesota, or to any other member of the Committee.

LIBRARY AIDS

Sears, Minnie Earl, comp. Standard catalog for public libraries; Biography section, 2nd. ed. rev. and enl. Second supplement. Wilson 1929 50c (paper)

This second annual supplement contains the 95 titles of the first supplement in addition to the 101 new titles. These new books are those which appeared in 1928 and the first half of 1929. A particularly valuable feature is the analytical index to collective biography, which makes the list a reference help as well as a buying and check list.

Hendry, Donald, comp. Technical books of 1928. Pratt Institute Free Library, 1929.

Annotations and a grading of their difficulty make the titles in this list more useful to the librarian who wishes to buy a few of the best new books on practical subjects.

Gifts for Children's Book-shelves. A. L. A. 1929 \$1.50 per 100 copies.

The 1929 edition has been revised by the Book Evaluating Committee of the Section for Library Work with Children. About 100 books are suggested, grouped by age divisions with annotations.

Recent Children's Books, compiled by Jessie Gay Van Cleve, A. L. A. 1929 90c per 100 copies.

This selection of about 30 outstanding books of the year serves as a supplement to the list noted above. It, too, is annotated.

Bostwick, Arthur E. The American public library; 4th ed. rev. and enl. Appleton 1929 \$3.00.

Two new chapters have been added to the material contained in former editions, "Adult Education" and "The Art Collection." Two others, "The County Library" and "Training for Librarianship" have been practically rewritten. Former editions of this book have long been the standard work on the public libraries of the United States.

Readers and Primers.

This list is a selection of twelve series of readers and twenty-three separate books for use in directing little children's informal reading in public libraries. A variety of interests is presented in folklore and fairy tales, realistic stories, animal stories, humor and poetry. All librarians should feel it obligatory to use this list as a check, duplicating such good material as is found here and discarding those in their libraries which do not measure up to the standards as outlined in this list. It has been compiled by the Committee on Readers and Primers, Section for Library Work with Children, of the American Library Association. 10 copies sell at 45c.

International cooperation for peace.

A list of fifty books prepared by the A. L. A. in cooperation with the World Peace Foundation, will be printed in a December issue of the **Publishers' Weekly**, for use in connection with the Tenth Anniversary of the League of Nations in January, 1930. Reprints of the list may be obtained from the World Peace Foundation.

SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS BULLETIN

How many times a year are you called upon by canvassing agents to buy some "indispensable" reference book or set? How often do your patrons turn to you for information about a set which they are considering for purchase? How many

times is the information you need not at hand or actually unavailable?

It is to help the librarian in deciding on her own purchases and to give her information with which she can help parents, teachers and others that the A. L. A. is starting the publication of "Subscription Books Bulletin," the first number of which will appear in January 1930.

Its purpose will be to evaluate subscription books and sets sold currently in the United States and Canada. Estimates will be made not only of the set but of the sales methods employed by their publishers. Strong and weak points will be set forth so that the librarian may be guided impartially in her selections.

In two respects the "Subscription Books Bulletin" will differ from "The Booklist." It will consider only subscription books. It will not limit its considerations to those books which it recommends for purchase. It will be a medium in which the librarian may expect to find facts whether favorable or derogatory to the publication under consideration, pros and cons discussed openly, and answers to the questions, "Does it fill a need?" "Is it worth the money?"

By keeping you and your community informed about subscription books and sets the "Subscription Books Bulletin" can be a real service to you and to others in saving money in ill advised purchases. Place it on your reading room tables and give your patrons the advantage of the investigations which the Subscription Books Committee will report through this new medium. To be issued quarterly. Subscription \$1.00. Place your subscription now with the American Library Association, 520 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

INTERNATIONAL BOOK

NEWS RADIO NUMBERS

On December 9 the National Broadcasting Corporation radio talks on Foreign Affairs, by James G. McDonald, were resumed, and on each succeeding Monday evening Mr. McDonald will speak on some phase of Foreign Affairs.

Last season the World Peace Foundation of Boston issued advance bibliographies on each of these radio talks, and more than 700 libraries in the country made use of this service. The Foundation will continue to publish its Radio Numbers of International Book News this season, and these issues are available to librarians for the asking.

Teachers of international subjects welcome this method of tying in their subject with a popular pastime, and frequently cooperate with librarians in the special display of books on subjects covered by Mr. McDonald in his radio talks.

Librarians who are not already on the mailing list of the World Peace Foundation may receive Radio Numbers of the International Book News by writing to 40 Mt. Vernon Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

RECENT BOOKS OF MERIT

Non-Fiction

Chase, Stuart. Men and machines. Macmillan 1929 \$2.50. 338

Library patrons whose interest lies in the consideration of present and future economic conditions will like to speculate along with Mr. Chase on the power of machinery over men.

Eipper, Paul. Animals looking at you. Viking 1929 \$3.00. 591

Of the many excellent photographs in this book from the German, there are some to make us quite uncomfortable as we return the thoughtful gaze of these individuals in the animal world. Mr. Eipper's interesting episodes from the lives of many animals unfamiliar to us are particularly fascinating.

Baldwin, William Henry. The shopping book. Macmillan 1929 \$2.50. 640

Housewives of much or little experience will find a vast quantity of helpful information in this guide to the buying of silverware, rugs, linens, furniture, jewelry, toilet articles and other home equipment. Such a guide is necessary in developing one's resistance to high pressure salesmanship and alluring advertising.

Sherriff, Robert Cedric. Journey's end. Brentano 1929 \$2.00. 822

A young Englishman presents in this play the simple, affecting picture of a few decent men in the front-line trenches. Modern drama shelves should contain this outstanding play of the year.

Sylvanus, Paddy. Ten to one in Sweden. Appleton 1929 \$2.50. 914.8

Here is an entirely delightful account of an English woman's life in a Swedish household, as the teacher of the children. In many respects it is less a travel book than a story. The description of their Christmas observances is of special interest.

Eddy, Clyde. Down the world's most dangerous river. Stokes 1929 \$2.50. 917.8

The title alone will circulate this book rapidly among boys and men. It is the story of a high-water expedition over dangerous rapids in the Colorado River by a crew of college students. Their response to the dangers and hardships of the trip are full of interest.

Gillilan, Archer Butler. Sheep. Little 1929 \$2.50. 917.8

A University graduate is living the life of a sheep herder in South Dakota. He describes in a vivid and entertaining manner all the troubles and cares, as well as pleasures, of his mode of life, with many fascinating and humorous sidelights on sheep nature. This, too, will appeal to men and older boys.

Dickey, Herbert Spencer. The misadventures of a tropical medico. Dodd 1929 \$3.50. 918

As a very young man the author practiced his profession in several remote sections of Ecuador and Colombia. Native customs, the

atrocities incident to the rubber trade and several truly thrilling escapes make this book an informing and readable addition to the library's travel collection.

Ellis, Mrs. Anne. The life of an ordinary woman. Houghton 1929 \$3.50 921

All the roughness, ignorance and severe hardships of life in western mining camps only served to make a splendid woman of Mrs. Ellis. There are few records from the viewpoint of a little girl and young woman of what this period in history demanded of mothers and wives.

Buell, Raymond Leslie. Europe; a history of ten years, with the aid of the staff of the Foreign policy association. Macmillan 1928 \$2.50. 940

The events of European history since the signing of the Treaty of Versailles are crisply retold in an "informing, impartial and readable" style.

Bowers, Claude Gernade. The tragic era. Houghton 1929 \$5.00 973.8

Dramatically, vividly written, the reconstruction period of our history makes intensely interesting reading as put down by Mr. Bowers. Anyone with the slightest curiosity about the social life and events of the time following Lincoln's assassination will find it difficult to lay aside this book, so compelling is its interest. Every library should buy one copy at least.

Fiction

Burman, Ben Lucien. Mississippi. Cosmopolitan 1929 \$2.00.

Steamboats and pilots, white trash and roustabouts provide a colorful atmosphere and fresh scene for this story. Men, particularly, will like to read it.

De La Roche, Mazo. Whiteoaks of Jalna. Little 1929 \$2.50.

Even this continuation of the story of the Whiteoaks family does not satisfy one's interest in this most unusual household. This will be widely popular.

Galsworthy, John. Modern comedy. Scribner 1929 \$2.50.

The white monkey, A silent wooing, The silver spoon, Passers by and Swan song are here collected in one volume which supplements the Forsyte saga and completes it, also.

Rogers, Will. Ether and me; or just relax. Putnam 1929 \$1.00.

Even the few who have not enjoyed an operation of some kind will be amused by this piece of nonsense from Will Rogers. It seems guaranteed to produce chuckles and its shortness makes it good to read aloud on occasion.

Stern, Gladys Bronwyn. Modesta. Knopf 1929 \$2.50.

The reader who enjoys amusing complications well and quietly told will appreciate this brightly written story of an Italian servant girl married to a young Englishman.

Suckow, Ruth. Cora. Knopf 1929 \$2.50.

Cora presents a very real piece of life, being the story of a daughter who tries to obtain financial security for her family, only to be betrayed by her romantic marriage to a shiftless man. An excellent, straightforward piece of fiction for the non-sentimental.

Tarkington, Booth. Penrod Jashber. D-D 1929 2.00.

The mischievous ingenuity of Penrod and his friends as detectives is always delightful reading. All libraries will wish to buy this.

van Buren, Maud and Bemis, Katharine Isabel. Father in modern story. Century 1929 \$2.50.

Another useful collection of short stories which librarians will find helpful for special occasions.

Walpole, Hugh. Hans Frost. D-D 1929 2.50.

Some do and some do not enjoy this story of an elderly author's release from the smothering attentions of a too-artificial wife, through his love and championship of a niece who comes to live with them. Purchase will depend upon the demand for Walpole.

TRAVELING LIBRARY NOTES

The Library Division is aiding in a project which we are watching with great interest. Believing that the use of traveling libraries would be of material and positive help in stimulating an interest in county library service, Pennington county was chosen as a good field for this experiment. Mrs. Halgrim, the librarian of the Thief River Falls Public Library, is already doing some county library work. She is being kept busy sending in for traveling libraries and sending them out from her library to the rural schools in her county. In one school the Little Citizens League is paying the transportation fee, so that they may have some of these good books to read this winter.

Mrs. Halgrim and the librarian of the Traveling Library have both presented our plan to the county institute meeting of teachers and to the county superintendent of schools, as well as reaching the general public through the newspaper. With the cooperation of the local public library board and those of the rural schools, we hope there will be a definite increase in the county library idea in Pennington county. Mrs. Halgrim has found that the teachers who used the traveling libraries last year were the first to ask for them this fall, so that the very large number enjoying them now will doubtless make a definite effort to secure books for their schools next year.

We now have ready for distribution a mimeographed list of famous pictures, arranged by grades, for use in schools primarily. As far as possible descriptive notes will be placed on the back of each mounted picture, telling something of its composition and worth and giving a short resumé of the artist's life. There is also a mimeographed list of modern plays, with notes, and of one-act plays. We find these exceedingly helpful in filling the demand for lists on various subjects, since they are easily compiled, printed and revised. Librarians who have access to a mimeograph machine in the local school or some office would find such lists a real help to her patrons and a convenience to herself. We will be glad to have librarians send for these lists and tell the teachers in their schools about them.

That these and our general pictures fill a real need is expressed in one letter to us from a school librarian who says, "The teachers here are very much delighted with the service from your picture collection. You are probably aware of the fact from the demand being made by them. The eighth grade class is studying Dickens' Christmas Carol and would like to borrow pictures dealing with English life as portrayed by Dickens." Another request is for pictures for a different purpose: "I should like to have some attractive pictures in order to improve the appearance of my school room. I should especially prefer some that have to do with scenes suitable for September." From a public library comes a note asking for pictures of the Nativity to give ideas for tableaux.

A valuable addition to our picture collection is a group of 150 reproductions of engravings, drawings and paintings presenting the arts of the theater—the stages, productions, costumes, designs, settings, etc.—as developed during every period of theatrical history from the days of the Greeks to our own. These Theater Arts Prints may be obtained from the John Day Company, 386 4th Avenue, New York City, for \$2.50.

An additional thousand books have been sent out in traveling libraries each month this fall. We have done no special advertising this year but the demand keeps increasing nevertheless. There are a few new graded collections and adult groups of 25 volumes which we have not yet sent out, but we cannot promise these unless librarians will send in for them at once.

New books added to the open shelf recently are:

Fiction

Byrne. Field of honor.
Cleugh. Spring.
Mann. Magic mountain.
Miln. By Soochow waters.
Neff. Lone voyageurs.
Nordhoff. Falcons of France.
Noyes. Sun cure.
Parrish. Methodist faun.
Swinerton. Sketch of a sinner.
Wilson. Lone tree.

Non-Fiction

Becker. Books as windows.
De Kruif. Seven iron men.
Flandrau. Then I saw the Congo.
Gjeraset. History of the Norwegian people.
Kable. Outline of period furniture.
Maitland. Knights of the air.
Manly. Drake's radio cyclopedia.
Matthiessen. Sarah Orne Jewett.
Maurois. Aspects of biography.
Mussolini. My autobiography.
Nield. Guide to the best historical novels and tales. New ed.

Mildred L. Methven.

PERSONAL

The many friends of Harriet A. Wood will sympathize with her in the death of her mother, which occurred October 18th. Mrs. Wood has been in frail health for many years, but maintained a deep interest in all human affairs and attended a number of state library meetings. Librarians who had the opportunity of meeting her will recall with pleasure her friendly spirit and keen sense of humor.

Frank K. Walter, librarian of the University of Minnesota, was one of the speakers at the meeting of the South Dakota Library Association at Rapid City in October.

Gratia A. Countryman recently celebrated another anniversary, her fortieth of service to the Minneapolis Public Library. In the fall after graduating from the University she began work as one of the staff of eight who organized the library under the direction of Herbert Putnam. Few librarians can boast of so long a period of service in one library.

The following members of the staff of the St. Paul Public Library are enrolled in the University of Minnesota Library School: Lydia Cutler of the Catalog Division; Lillian Reinholdson of the Reference Division; Reba Wakefield, Barbara Roome, Valborg Tanner, Mrs. Toogood, and Mrs. Christmas of the Branch Division, and Eleanor Hermann of the Juvenile Division.

Gladys Taylor of the Branch Division of the St. Paul Public Library was married August 31st to Mr. Ralph Bogue of St. Paul.

Mildred Bielenberg, also of the Branch Division of the St. Paul Public Library, was married October 26th to Mr. Loren Toogood, formerly of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Both Mrs. Bogue and Mrs. Toogood are continuing their work with the library.

Martha Spafford, N. Y. State Library School, formerly cataloger University of Oregon library, came to St. Catherine's College this fall as instructor in cataloging, classification, bibliography and book-selection.

Additional appointments of graduates of the University of Minnesota Division of Library Instruction are: Mercedes Muenz, High School librarian, St. Thomas College; Gladys Dobrin, assistant, State Normal School, Albion, Idaho; Gladys Smith, assistant, West Lake Branch, Minneapolis; Raphael Vannucci, assistant librarian, University of Detroit. Waunita Bell reorganized the school library at Glenwood City, Wisconsin.

Louva Crane, Wisconsin Library School, 1927, librarian of Woodland Branch, Duluth, has accepted a position as assistant

director of branches in the public library at Flint, Michigan.

Ruth A. Haven, Chatfield, Minn., formerly organizer for the Library Commission, has been appointed librarian of Woodland Branch, Duluth.

Marian Lambert, children's librarian at Chisholm has resigned to take a position in children's work at Coalinga, California.

Hester J. Clark has resigned her position as librarian of the Ortonville public library to devote all her time to the school library work and teaching. Vivian Has-slen succeeds her as librarian of the public library.

Marian Tyler, who has been librarian at St. Peter for 25 years, has resigned on account of ill health. Grace Gresham, a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus, Minnesota Summer Library School, 1928, who has been assistant to Miss Tyler, succeeds her as librarian. Karen Fredericksen has been made assistant.

Mrs. T. R. Converse, who has been a valued member of the library board at Stillwater since 1905, has resigned from the board.

NEWS FROM PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Akeley—The public and school library has been moved to the former 8th grade room in the old building. The library will be open one evening a week in addition to afternoons.

Austin—A set of histories of America has been presented to the library by the local post of V. F. W. The Mothers' clubs of the Shaw and Sumner schools have each contributed \$5 to the fund for purchase of children's books.

Benson—In reply to a criticism of library hours in the Letter Box of a local paper, the library board made a full statement as to the resources and work of the library, comparing it with others in neighboring communities,—an excellent piece of publicity.

Blooming Prairie—The Blooming Prairie Library Association gave a tea in the library at the High School building, at which Maud van Buren, librarian of the Owatonna public library, gave a talk on the "Value of a Library to a Community."

Chisholm—Following the library board meeting in October, the staff entertained the members of the board, thus giving an opportunity for new members of both groups to become acquainted.

Crookston—A cut of \$250 in the library budget was vetoed by the mayor after investigation of the growth of the work of the library. In submitting his veto, Dr. Locken pointed out that during the last two years, the library had had the remarkable increase of 24 per cent in its circulation and that during the same period the income of the library had increased only 10 per cent. He summed up his message as follows:

"While the reduction of taxes is a worthy ideal, I personally do not believe that it is our obligation to reach that effort by sacrificing the work of the center of our culture in this community. The cutting of \$250 or one-tenth of a mill tax from the request of the highly intelligent and conservative library board is of negligible value to the pocketbooks of our citizens, but it is of great consequence to the library itself, for there it represents the difference between standing still and making further strides in this most important phase of our cultural development.

For these reasons, I beg of you honorable gentlemen of the city council that you again consider this item of the budget and that in the light of the information which is here given you, that you grant the full request of the library board this year."

The council sustained his veto, making the appropriation \$4,850 as requested by the library board.

The library has undertaken weekly service to the two large hospitals.

Duluth—An amendment to the library board ordinance gives the board the power to administer the affairs of the library, but leaves the final authority in the hands of the city council as required under the city charter. The members of the library board are: Mr. Frank Adams, Mrs. Margaret Banning, Judge Bert Fesler, Mr. John Heitmann, Mrs. A. F. Swannstrom, Jr., Mrs. E. A. Silberstein, and Mr. D. C. Wakeman.

The appropriation for 1930 is \$99,625, the full amount requested and an increase of \$4,625 over the appropriation for 1929.

The most important development of the fall is the intensifying and enlarging of the work with the schools. The circulation in the schools stations has increased considerably and the principals expressed their appreciation in strong terms at a recent principals' meeting.

Grand Marais—A Parent's Bookshelf handy to a Morris chair has been established in the Grand Marais Public Library.

Grand Rapids—A gift of 88 recent books, largely fiction, has been received from David G. Joyce.

Hallock—Since the library has been moved into its new quarters down town, the circulation has more than doubled. The gift of 1,000 books from Dr. A. W. Shaleen has aroused new interest. The one mill tax levied by the council will provide an income of about \$300 a year.

International Falls—The tax levy for the public library was increased by \$500 although the total levy for the city was reduced.

The schedule of hours has been arranged so that two persons are on duty during the busiest hours from 4 to 9 p. m., one to do the mechanical work and the other for reference service. This has raised the quality of service, especially making it possible to help the child to help himself; a greater desire to be independent is noticeable.

Statistics show a decided increase in the number of persons given special help and in the numbers of "readers"; that is, patrons who use the library for other purposes than merely to take out books. During the late afternoon and evening the "readers" frequently number between 50 and 75. With table accommodations for only 32, it is evident that the library quarters are inadequate.

Staff meetings were resumed the first of September. Sixth grade reading was selected for book reports.

Jackson—As its contribution to civic betterment, the Woman's Club of Jackson will redecorate the public library during the Christmas holidays.

Lanesboro—A public library was started last spring by the Civic league. It is located in the community building. A public reception was given September 21, each person attending presenting a book. Donations of \$75 from the Civic League and \$25 from the Kiwanis club have been received, with which book-shelves and 45 books were purchased. A traveling library was secured and members of the club serve as librarians.

Litchfield—Mrs. Dorothy K. Parsons, acting librarian at Litchfield, gave a talk on library work and service before the Parent-Teachers Association at Dassel, November 19th.

Milaca—The library committee of the Home Civic Club held a white elephant sale for the benefit of the library October 19th at the rest room. Coffee and doughnuts were served.

Minneapolis—The fortieth anniversary of the opening of the library was observed December 16. A dinner was given by the library board and library staff in the Art Gallery of the Public Library. Reminis-

cences of the opening of the library were given by Josephine Cloud, Jessie McMillan Marcey, Gratia Countryman, Katherine Patten and Hallvard Askeland, all members of the staff in the early days. Pictures and songs of the gay nineties were presented, and a skit by Augusta Starr and Ruth Thompson gave the spirit of 40 years ago. The library opened with a staff of eight and 13,502 books on the shelves. The circulation the first year was approximately 200,000. Last year with a staff of 300, and over 500,000 books, the circulation was over 3,000,000.

Miss Countryman is chairman of a special committee of the Minneapolis Council of Adult Education which is making a survey of all educational facilities offered the adult population of the city.

A bulletin board devoted to announcements of interest in adult education has been placed near the entrance to the circulation room, under the supervision of Mr. Lewis, readers' adviser. Notices of worthwhile concerts, lectures, classes, exhibits or meetings in churches or settlements or various organizations will be posted.

Monticello—The Worth Brasie Memorial Library was opened to the public October 1st. The building is located on the school grounds with an entrance connecting with the school building, and is open every school day from 2 to 5 p. m., and on Monday and Thursday from 7 to 9 p. m. The two libraries have been combined and are being reorganized to serve both school and community. Miss Carroll Cook is librarian.

Owatonna—The outstanding event of November was an exhibit of miniature conveyances lent by the Great Northern Railway Co., showing the development of land travel in the U. S. With these a collection of books on modes of travel was featured.

Miss Keefe, children's librarian, is giving a course to the Normal Training students on children's literature and the illustrators of children's books.

Reference work as well as circulation is increasing, and the librarian reports that the crowds "look like a city library."

Pine City—Instead of the annual drive for library funds, a benefit dance and card party was given in the Armory, November 22. The proceeds amounted to \$122.55.

St. Cloud—The budget for 1930 is \$14,000, an increase of \$1,000. Service to the grade schools has been started with Mrs. Tschumperlin in charge.

St. Paul—The St. Paul Public Library has added to its new series, "Recent Books," a list entitled "Modern Plays."

The first of this series, "Domestic Science," was issued in October. A list of recent biographies will be issued in December.

A very attractive list of books and periodical articles relating to "The Miracle" was compiled by Miss Eva Smith of the Reference Division. This list includes material on the legend of "The Miracle," on mediaeval drama, pageantry production, etc.

Shakopee—The public library which has been stored in the City Hall for some time will be combined with the school library in a new building now under construction adjoining the school building. The room is 40x20 with a separate outside entrance and corridor entering from the school building.

Sleepy Eye—A flag carried by Alonzo Pickle in the Civil War has been suitably framed by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the American Legion and hung in the Public Library.

South St. Paul—The reference room back of the desk has been shelved, and general reference books, bound magazines and books on the High School reading lists have been placed there. The room is in constant use by High School students.

Three students of the library course at St. Catherine's College, have been doing three hours' practice work a week in the South St. Paul Public Library.

Warren—The public library which is housed with the school library has a budget of \$400 for 1929-30. Ruth Synness, the school librarian is in charge.

"READING WITH A PURPOSE" EXHIBIT ST. PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY

To advertise the sale of "Reading with a Purpose" booklets, the St. Anthony branch of the St. Paul Public Library arranged a special exhibit. Several of the more popular booklets, such as Twentieth Century American Novels, were placed in the exhibit case, and behind them were grouped books required for the reading course.

Between these groups were three small posters, 7½ by 11 inches, consisting of a background, sketchily drawn on white poster board, and a cut-out figure in black placed an inch in front of the background. A few words were lettered at the top.

One poster, for example, was headed with the words, "Lincoln walked twelve miles for books. He read with a purpose." Below was a sketch of a log cabin interior with a fireplace on the right. In front of that was the silhouette of young Lincoln stretched on the floor with his book.

Other posters showed the Grimm Brothers, famous tellers of fairy tales, reading in their library, with a background of a Gothic window, and another an heroic figure of Roosevelt as a Rough Rider. The last was copied from the well-known cartoon by Darling, called "The Long Long Trail," which was published at Roosevelt's death.

A plain placard called attention to the fact that copies of the booklets were on sale at the desk for ten cents.

Notice

Old Rail Fence Corners, published by Mrs. James T. Morris for a committee of the D. A. R., is now on sale for \$3.75. Application may be made to Lois M. Jordan, Public Library, Minneapolis.

The book is composed of personal narratives of old settlers in Minnesota.

COUNTY LIBRARY NEWS

County Library First in Adult Education Program.

In recording his impressions of the state conference on adult education at the University of Minnesota last June, John D. Willard, Research Associate, American Association for Adult Education puts the county library first. "It is my impression that steady and consistent publicity concerning the effectiveness of county library service should be carried forward all the time as a ground-work for occasional intensive county library campaigns; the latter to be undertaken only when, in the judgment of those most interested, they are advisable. The State Library Division will probably have to be responsible for supplying the facts and materials; the existing county libraries can cooperate by furnishing data concerning their work, and by occasional acceptance of opportunity to speak concerning the county libraries' program; the state organizations, —women's clubs, P. T. A., extension service, farm bureau, etc.—could well make effort to see that the facts reach their local branches through their own official agencies. It is also my impression that when counties are found in a frame of mind to study their own adult educational needs, county library service, in case none already exists, will come up for very early consideration. Because the library is more serviceable than any other agency in aiding growth by individual students without class instructions, and because it is essential to the best development of study programs by organizations, I feel that the library should in a sense have priority in adult education considerations."

County Library Publicity

Miss Countryman, who was the pioneer in library extension work in Minnesota, is now promoting the county library plan, and has been called upon recently to make several addresses in neighboring states. She spoke at a conference of state and county supervisors of rural schools of the Midwestern states in Des Moines last June, and at the state library association meetings in Iowa and North Dakota in October. The following is quoted from her talk at the rural school conference on:

The Contribution of County Libraries

The county library seems to provide the solution of the library problem for rural districts. Just as a large city library provides a system of branches and stations and school collections, so a county system establishes village libraries, rural school libraries, and service to individual homes, and furnishes trained supervision by a trained librarian. The money that supports the district schools and the county system of libraries comes from the same pocket. It is in a strategic position to convert the parents to the need of books in the school room. It serves the children all summer long when the schools are closed, through the home service.

There is no reason why the school library in each little district school should not be also the community library. The children are the best purveyors for the families who would not otherwise use the books. Moreover, the school life of children cannot and should not be separated from the home life. The county librarian going from school to school and from family to family, comes to understand the home life as well as the school life and is able to administer to the child book needs much better from knowing his home background. She can help through the ministry of books and her own sympathetic attitude to introduce magazines and personally owned books to the farm center table. She can connect books with daily living and make the child realize that books are not simply a part of school work and the preparation of lessons, but companions at home. Just before school closed this spring, I took a trip with our County Director around the school libraries to talk with the teachers. At every place teachers and children came out with armloads of books to exchange for other armloads. Teachers said again and again that their teaching had become very much more interesting and valuable and that their curriculum had been much enriched.

In our County, there are 103 schools. Those in villages are served by the County branch in that village. Some are in consolidated schools and have a well equipped county library branch, and 82 are in one or two room ungraded schools. In every

one of these schools are collections of well chosen and well-kept books in orderly bookcases. Each of these schools is visited once a month, at least seven or eight times a year, (except a few which are on bad roads in out-of-the-way districts which cannot be visited in bad weather.)

When the County book truck starts out twice each week, it is loaded with boxes going to the County branches in the villages, to the County deposit stations in 14 crossroads stores, and carries in addition about 500 selected books for the schools and for the homes along the way. Altogether, the book truck visits each month 20 branches, 14 deposit stations, 80 schools, and 265 separate families. At each school the Director talks over the selection of books, recommending what seems to be the best for that particular school. If the teacher needs special material a note is made and the books are sent the next day by parcel post. Saturdays are the busy days in the Central County Library, for many teachers come in to choose what they want from the general County collection.

Besides the books which are loaned from the County collection, each school may have its own permanent collection from the State Aid funds. In the case of the district schools, this money has been used chiefly to buy reference tools and supplementary material for school room use. At the present time there is an average of 100 to 500 county books in each of the district schools, coming and going according to seasonal needs, in addition to the remnants of their old libraries and the permanent collection which is gradually being built up. It is all very flexible; the County Library Director working as closely with the teachers as a School Superintendent would do. There are also village high schools and consolidated country high schools. In each of these, with two exceptions, we have built up a combination school and community library—usually housed in the school building. Through a contract arrangement, the school board turns over the State Aid fund and its own corresponding fund to the county library fund. The teachers make out lists of books which they want to have in the school library and they are purchased for the County school library. In addition they borrow from the County collection or the Minneapolis Library whatever they need for special times or occasions. We have yet to hear from any of the principals that they did not have much more to gain than to lose through the County administration of their high school libraries.

The school librarians are paid jointly by the school board and County Library because they serve both school and community. As county librarians they attend the County Library institutes and get the enthusiasm and broader viewpoints of the

public librarians. They are helped by the County Director to work out any details and to catalog their material. If the Librarian has not had the opportunity of training, she is brought in to the Minneapolis Library and given such training as will help her particular work.

It is usually an advantage when the County system is connected with a big city library as it is in many counties. In Hennepin County, the County Commissioners levy a one mill tax, as a County library fund. This fund, through a contract with the Minneapolis Library Board is placed under the administration of the city librarian. The Minneapolis library loans books to all residents of the County. It furnishes space for the County office and book collection. The County teachers who come in and out of the building every Saturday may borrow from the city collection as well as from the County collection. A County teacher may borrow lantern slides, photographs, maps, stereographs, and what not. She may borrow plays and arrange the scheme of costuming in the Art Room; she may borrow music for a school entertainment. The County Director constantly re-enforces her collection by temporary loans from the city collection. It can hardly be conceived that in any other way could these rural schools in Hennepin County have the variety and wealth of material which they are now getting. All because there is a County Library administration of all the library work in the County and a fine spirit of co-operation with the school people.

A series of papers upon county libraries has been appearing in **School Life**, the official organ of the U. S. Bureau of Education. Library Service to the Schools of Hennepin County, by Miss Countryman, was published in the April number.

Hennepin County Institute

The fall meeting of the Hennepin County librarians was held at Glen Lake Sanatorium, November 2nd. Dr. Mariette in extending a welcome to the guests said that books offer the most amusement with the least amount of physical exertion, and that reading of the right sort was the ideal occupation for patients in the Sanatorium.

Miss Countryman was called upon for her usual inspiring message, and said that the librarian's job is to make people love books. The true librarian must be sensitive to the voices in books, and bring to readers the books which belong to them. In closing she read the poem **Books! Books! Books!** reprinted in the Community Bookshelf for November from *There are Sermons in Books* by William L. Stidger.

Before the usual roll-call, Miss Berry discussed some of the practical problems, especially methods of handling reserves, so as to give every one a fair chance.

In answer to roll-call, several librarians reported constantly growing cooperation with the teachers, and more use of the library by pupils. In some schools library tables had been placed in each room. Miss Wood warned against the tendency to disintegrate the library and scatter books through the rooms. Plans for book week as announced included dramatizations by the 7th and 8th grades at Mound and open house at St. Louis Park, with an exhibit of things made by the children.

Miss Corson explained the charging system in use at the Sanatorium, which has many reserves, and told of the advantageous use of the local broadcasting system in reviewing new books.

A delicious luncheon was served in the spacious patients' dining-room, with autumn decorations and waitresses in costume.

The theme of the afternoon session was **Individual Work with People.**

Mrs. Elva Bailey, hospital librarian, Minneapolis, spoke on **Hospital Library Work.** She said that reading is now recognized as a form of occupational therapy which brings happiness. "If it is reasonable for a large city to put books within walking distance of every resident, is it not reasonable to take books to those who can't walk?" She gave incidents to illustrate the approach to patients who showed no interest in reading. One man when asked what he was interested in said "Horses, I guess." Wildfire was the book that won him to the library. "Hospital library service must above all be personal and intelligent. The hospital librarian must have a sympathetic understanding of people and their interests and she must read her books. After all, is this not true of any librarian?"

Mr. Lewis, reader's adviser of the Minneapolis public library, explained the service of his department. The difference between the work of the reader's adviser and reference work, is that the reader's adviser plans a course for the individual, with continuity. Among the aids in the work he mentioned the Reading with a Purpose courses, the U. S. Bureau of Education reading courses, Felsenthal's Readable books in many subjects, and Becker's Reader's guide book which helps a person who doesn't know where to begin.

The method is a conference to get at the patron's needs. There are in general two classes (1) those who know what they want and (2) those who do not know.

Typical courses outlined are Accounting, Advertising, Color-harmony, Social backgrounds (for a prospective traveler), English grammar, Spelling and vocabulary building, and Psychology. In Psychology, Thorndyke's Human nature study club and

Glover's Know your own mind are simple books to start with. An example was cited of a welder by trade, who was self-educated beyond the 8th grade, but interested in social problems. A course in Philosophy and Mathematics was planned. Again the importance of fitting the course to the individual needs and capabilities was emphasized.

Helen Baird, of the Bibliographic Committee of the Minneapolis Public Library reviewed in her inimitable way five representative books of unusual interest. As an informative, substantial book she chose Bowers' Tragic era, which is a readable, impartial history by a unique historian who fills in the social background very fully and gives chapter and verse for what he says. Marionettes, by Ackley, is for the person who wants something to do with his hands. The attractive illustrations and clear, simple instructions make one want to do it.

As an entertaining book she named Roy Chapman Andrews' Ends of the earth, which relates in a popular way his experiences as an explorer beginning with sweeping floors in the Metropolitan Museum.

Pitkin's Psychology of happiness has an excellent idea, that of case studies of people who had every reason for happiness, but it is not carried out in an unprejudiced way, which mars the value of the book.

As a book which presents a puzzle, she reviewed O'Neill's Dynamo, the first of a trilogy which depicts the psychological problem of present day thinking and the failure of science and materialism to satisfy.

Dakota County—Traveling libraries have been placed in the public library at Farmington (50v.); and in school libraries at Castle Rock (100v.); Farmington (100v.) and Hastings (200v.). Collections of 25 or 30v. have been lent to a number of rural schools, and individual loans are increasing.

Miss Dorival, librarian of South St. Paul, spoke on the county service at the meeting of the County Federation of Clubs at Hastings and also before the Orchard Lake Parent-Teacher Association.

Koochiching County—Letters explaining the county library service were sent to each of 175 families recorded in the county file. The response has been very gratifying. Requests are arriving from dormant patrons, and others who had been reading only western stories are writing for books on the subjects suggested.

A well worked out plan for developing good book collections in each of the large schools in the county has been formulated.

On October 22-24, the following schools were visited: Margie, Gemmell, Northome, Mizpah, Big Falls and Littlefork, and judged according to the standards outlined at the beginning of the year.

Northome has greatly improved its situation by converting a former classroom into a library. The books were arranged by class for the teacher and a card catalog was begun for her.

The librarian at Big Falls has almost completed her catalog and has done much to improve the library generally.

Pennington County—Intensive service to the schools through cooperation with the traveling library is described in *Traveling Library Notes*, page 160.

Steele County—Twenty-eight collections were sent to rural schools in September.

The Medford and Ellendale school staffs visited the Owatonna library early in September to acquaint themselves with its resources and its privileges and a debating team from Ellendale high school spent a day there in study.

Miss van Buren, the county librarian spent a full day at Ellendale installing a pamphlet and picture collection in the Consolidated School Library and assisting the new librarian in the further organization of her work.

Washington County—The Stillwater public library is offering the same book service to Washington County residents as to those of Stillwater, as announced in a recent newspaper:

"This is done through package libraries, made up from requests or by traveling libraries, which are selected as far as possible to meet the needs of the commu-

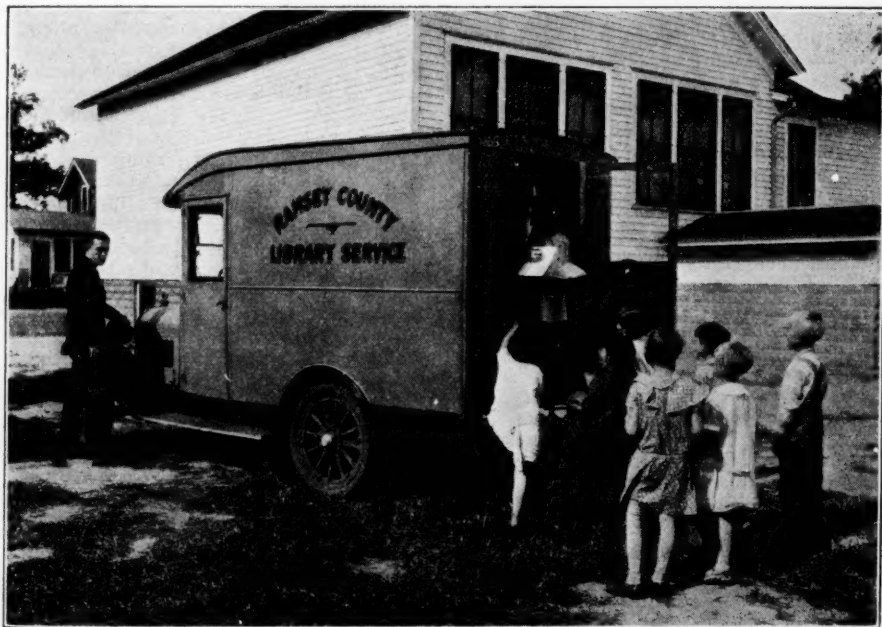
nity from which the demand has come. A request from any school, club, home, store or any place that can be used as a library station and with some responsible person who is willing to act as a library attendant will bring a traveling library. The books may be those of travel, biography, history, poetry, essays, cooking, interior decoration, science, law, religion or just good stories. New books are added to the county library frequently. If the library hasn't the book wanted, through the inter-library loan system, it can be supplied.

Mailing cost for packages is borne by the Stillwater public library when the package is sent and by the patron when returned."

COLLEGE OF ST. CATHERINE LIBRARY COURSE

A department of library service has been established at the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul.

A non-professional course is given in Junior College for Freshmen and Sophomores. The professional courses in library service are offered only to Seniors. A program of one year, with a pre-requisite of three years of college work, leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Librarianship is offered. Instructors are Sister Marie Cecilia, Sister Maris Stella and Martha Spafford of St. Catherine's faculty, Lillian Busian of the University High School and Frank K. Walter, librarian, University of Minnesota.



The Ramsey County Library Truck makes three trips weekly carrying about 600 books and magazines to twenty-nine schools and seventy homes, in addition to the service to stations and institutions.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

Exhibits

St. Paul Public Library—According to statistics, 5,386 people, during the month of November, came to the St. Paul Public Library to visit the annual Exhibit of Children's books on display from November 2 through December 2. This number, to our way of thinking, shows that the exhibition was almost twice as successful from the standpoint of patronage than it has ever been before, but what it does not show are the radiant faces of the children as they came into the exhibition room transformed to suggest a mediaeval castle of by-gone days, resplendent in armor, mediaeval banners, tales of chivalry and knights on guard in their coats of mail. Neither do the figures give any indication of the grace and courtesy with which the guests who came were greeted by the six girl scouts in mediaeval costume who served as hostesses every afternoon during the month. The richness and color reflected in the books, the walls hung with tapestries and original illustrations were all made possible through the cooperation of the local book stores, publishers, artists and generous patrons and friends of the St. Paul Library.

Before we had time to get our publicity data to the newspapers or even our signs up on the bulletin board, eager children began to pour in. We had not planned to open the exhibition until Monday, November 4, but since it was practically ready on Saturday we decided that the gates might as well be flung wide and interested patrons might enjoy the display to whatever extent their inclination and time made possible. The first day 175 took advantage of their opportunity. The last day we had 207.

We had expected to continue the exhibit this year through the second week of December. Experience has taught us, that while parents come with their children to see the exhibition during November, they do not seriously consider what books they will add to the library shelves of their boys and girls by way of the Christmas stocking, until well along in December. Other exhibits which were scheduled for the room, however, made it seem advisable to take down the display for children December 2. As the day of dismantling approached, the interest of the public was by no means exhausted as the last day attendance showed.

During the month, teachers brought their boys and girls as class units, parents came with their children on Sunday afternoons, and in many instances each free moment that many children had out of school was spent on additional pilgrimages of investigation to the room.

This year we tried out the experiment of assembling our material around a central theme and it proved successful beyond our

greatest hopes. Tales of chivalry, knight-hood, mediaeval romance, and the lays of the troubadour, of course, rank very high in the scale of interest of many a boy and girl, but with children pouring in from all sorts of environments that there should have been not one single request for a mystery story or a boarding school tale or a Tom Swift title would have seemed, before the exhibition opened, an incredible result to hope for, and yet that was just one of the many delightful by-products that, for at least once, we are going to be able to write into our ACHIEVEMENT COLUMN. Whether it will be possible to duplicate this achievement next time with interest centered in THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE COLONIAL PERIOD, we shall have to wait until next year to discover. But whatever the future may hold for once we have accomplished what we had supposed was well nigh impossible, and while we are still under the Heraldic spell, we feel quite in the mood to blow three long blasts of gratitude for the generosity of all those individuals and organizations whose support made the project a success.

St. Paul Public Library—Arlington Hills Branch—Every year the Arlington Hills Branch Library displays a number of beautifully illustrated volumes for children. This year, in connection with this display, the idea of reading and especially of owning books was stressed by the exhibit of a Miniature Home Library. Enclosed in three walls was a cozy room containing a fireplace with a cheery red fire glowing through coals, window-seats piled with puffy little pillows, and a book trough table. A tiny parchment lamp on the table lit up a velvet Cogswell chair with a wee ottoman to match. The windows were draped with blue silk and hung with net curtains. A red radio lamp stood on the little radio, lights on each end of the fireplace mantel illuminated a Japanese etching, and a floor lamp brought out the rich coloring of the real Oriental rug. And then, of course, there were books. Under one window-seat were a Webster's New International Dictionary, the revised Encyclopedia Britannica, and the Bible. The other window-seat, a hanging shelf, and a tall bookcase were filled with tiny "books" bearing the titles of the display books on the opposite table. They included all the children's favorites from *Ivanhoe*, *Robin Hood*, *Peter Pan*, and the *Arabian Nights Entertainment*, to *White's Book of Games* and *Chapman's Bird Life*, and a great many others, all in bright covers with each title printed clearly enough for the children to read it. There was even a "really honest" *French Dictionary*. The effect was one of cheer and comfort combined with the suggestion of reading, and the idea was justified by the exclamation of many a small enthusiast, "I'd like to read there!"

In the **Minneapolis public library** the Book Week exhibit continued from Nov. 17-Dec. 1 in the exhibition room. It included old favorites in beautifully illustrated editions, interesting picture books for the little ones, books on aviation for boys, new books as suggestions for Christmas gifts, a Model Home Library of 100 books, and a table of good editions of books which can be purchased for \$1.00 and less.

In **Hibbing**, an exhibit was arranged in the Tribune Job Printing Co. window by the extension department, in cooperation with the children's departments of both North and South Hibbing and the High School and Lincoln Libraries.

It consisted of articles made by school children from books, illustrating characters from them, pictures and posters and a Shakespearian theatre, and dolls of various nations.

At **Stillwater**, a complete Children's Book Shop was arranged in the library auditorium. Books were lent by publishers and book-dealers.

Chisholm held a doll convention in the children's room. There were dolls representing Russia, Finland, Denmark, Poland, Scotland and many other countries and nationalities; a little Indian doll, little Black Mumbo, Pinocchio and the lovely Japanese friendship doll, from the Minneapolis Art Institute, and a pair of Dutch dolls from Holland. The annual exhibit of soap sculpture was held at the same time. About fifteen of the Range librarians came for tea one afternoon.

At the **Lincoln branch, Duluth**, the Girl Scouts had supervision of the exhibit, and at **Woodland branch**, the Bookhouse, used at the Main library in previous years was the feature.

Attractive exhibits are reported at **Benson, Cloquet, Eveleth, Grand Rapids, Little Falls, Moorhead** Public Library and Teachers College, **Owatonna, St. Cloud** and **St. Peter**.

Contests

Children's Book Week was celebrated at the **Fergus Falls** public library as usual by an attractive exhibit of posters made by the grade schools. The subject being "Books and Reading." The children displayed great originality, and the work was remarkably neat. In connection with this exhibit there was also a display of new books, and book-lists. The attendance was good, the parents and teachers showing great interest. Prizes were given for the best posters.

Poster contests were featured at **Alexandria, Eveleth, Pine Island, Taylors Falls**, and **Warren**.

At **Pine City**, each grade had a project for which prizes were awarded.

An author-title guessing contest of old favorites was put on at **Thief River Falls**,

Pictures from book jackets were posted in the window at the First National Bank and on bulletin boards at the library.

A voting contest on favorite books at **St. Peter** gave first choice to Tom Sawyer.

Entertainments

Many schools and libraries put on special programs. A playlet entitled The Book Case was given at **Duluth**; dramatizations of Tom Sawyer by 7th grade pupils, and Treasure island were presented at **St. Cloud**; a puppet show of Ameliar Ann Stiggins, introduced by Jo-Jo, the clown who tells the stories, was given at **Virginia**; special programs with awarding of prizes at **Pine Island** and **Taylors Falls**. The awarding of the banner for highest circulation to the Lincoln school at **Rochester** was the feature of Book week assembly.

Book-Talks

Harriet A. Wood, of the Library Division gave three talks on books, both children's and adult, one before the Woman's Club at **Thief River Falls**, another at an open house in the **Detroit Lakes** public library, and one before the P. T. A. in the **Mahnomen** high school, which also included a general talk on library work.

Alice Brown, children's librarian at **Duluth**, gave book appreciation talks to most of the classes of Washington Junior High School which have stimulated the circulation of the better kind of books, particularly of non-fiction. A representative of a well-known publishing house attributed to these talks an increased sale of books of the highest quality during Children's book week.

At **International Falls**, Miss Lawin and Miss Kling both spoke before the P. T. A. Miss Lawin on Books as Gifts for Children and Miss Kling on Good and Bad Influences of Books.

The A. L. A. list entitled **Gifts for Children's Book Shelves** was distributed and also a mimeographed list of **Children's Booklists** which may be obtained free or at slight expense and **Books on Children's Reading** available at the Public Library.

Mrs. Bordwell of **Crookston** gave a series of informal talks to the students in the various ward schools, the object being to make every school child in the city the possessor of a library card.

Mrs. Halgrim reports an excellent response to the same plan at **Thief River Falls**.

A Book Week Radio Program was broadcast over WCCO Monday afternoon, November 18th, by the M. F. W. C. A talk on the Significance of Book Week was given by Miss Baldwin, and Louise F. Encking chief of the juvenile department of the Minneapolis public library spoke on Poetry for children, with readings.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT

TIME! TIME!

A marked advance is apparent all over the state in providing more adequate housing for the school library so that all of the children from the first grade through the high school may actually browse in a library and have real library experience. This is most encouraging and indicates a vision on the part of the school executives that will help to create a self-helpful student body in the future. While it will always be necessary for teachers to borrow from the school library certain books for classroom use for a given period of time, the development of schoolroom libraries sufficiently extensive to meet the needs of each room would be a most expensive and almost prohibitive project. It always seems to happen that the book needed in one room is located in another under the classroom library system. A well-rounded, well-housed collection in a central library room under the direction of a competent librarian who is able to respond promptly to a need anywhere in the school system is the ideal situation. The library should be a quiet place where pupils may go to consult books and to enjoy them, and to which teachers may send for the book needed at any time for class room use.

But—the problem that faces many schools is how to arrange sufficient time for the librarian to train student assistants to keep up the necessary routine, to record the books and to act as a guide to them. Especially does she need time to work out the library instruction provided for in the course of study for grades and high schools and to schedule classes from the entire school during school hours. The increase in extra-curricular activities and the demand for her time in the study hall seem to be pressing in upon the school librarian's precious library hours.

The librarian's presence in the school library for as many hours as possible will tend to strengthen every part of the school system. The time element seems to be the outstanding library problem to be studied by all concerned with the functioning of the school library.

HARRIET A. WOOD

NOTICE

The school librarian is referred to other parts of this issue for accounts of Children's Book Week and the Reports of County Service.

School work is so interlaced with these various activities that it is hoped school librarians may make a practice of reading all parts of the bulletin whether addressed directly to them or not.

HARRIET A. WOOD.

MINNESOTA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION DIVISION CONVENTIONS PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

Twin Cities—St. Paul

The School Librarians' section of the St. Paul and Minneapolis divisions of the M. E. A. met in the Exhibition room of the St. Paul Public Library on October 25th. Miss Harriet Wood presided. Miss Greer gave reviews of five new books which are suitable for a High School Library. The titles of the books are: Auslander's "Winged Horse Anthology"; "Minnesota Trees and Shrubs"; Hughes Mearns' "Creative Power"; R. W. Brown's "Lonely Americans"; Paul de Kruif's "Seven iron men."

Miss Reely, of the Wisconsin Library Commission, spoke on "Youth's Contribution to Literature." In Miss Reely's opinion, while the chief contribution of youth to literature is in technique and design rather than in subject-matter, the tendency of recent young writers is a return to idealism.

Miss Wood brought news of School Libraries in different parts of the state.

At the close of the morning session, the group went out to the Summit School for lunch. Miss Converse welcomed the guests cordially and invited them to see the beautiful Gordon Memorial Library and any other of the rooms of the school.

Lunch was served in the sunny lunch rooms, and an open fire added to the pleasure of the guests. Coffee was served upstairs, in front of a huge fireplace.

The afternoon session was given over to an informal round table discussion. Miss Frost presided. The Librarians had previously been asked to send in problems to Miss Frost, and these were stated and discussed. Many participated in the discussion, which proved helpful to all.

PHYLLIS M. BASTIN.
Secretary.

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Central Division—St. Cloud

The Library section met for luncheon after the Friday morning session, October 18th. Thirty-seven teachers and librarians were there,

The topic for discussion this year was—Reading Ruts of Boys and Girls: Remedial Measures. The subject was introduced by Florence Dodd, Children's and reference librarian of the college. An annotated bibliography on the subject and sheets suggesting ways of interesting children in reading were distributed. Alma Penrose, librarian of the public library, reviewed books which she had listed in attractive lists for each visitor. Mrs. Jessie Parsons, teacher-librarian of the Elk River high school, gave many helpful suggestions from her own experience. Bertha Camp, sixth grade supervisor of the training school of the college, described interesting units of reading along special lines which her sixth graders had covered as class projects. Cora Dorsey of the English faculty of the Technical high school spoke of the excellent work which may be accomplished when teachers and librarian work together as they do in her school. She said the Moe book tests had been useful aids in checking the outside required reading of her students. Clara Ledahl, the high school librarian, also emphasized the good work possible when there is close cooperation between teachers and librarians.

Clara F. Baldwin, Director of the Library Division, was at the college at the library exhibit on the 17th and met those who had library problems and gave them the assistance they needed.

EDITH E. H. GRANNIS,
Librarian.

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Northeast Division—Virginia

At this Librarians' section Helen Ann Perry of Duluth presided and the following talks were given.

Bridget Hayes talked on "How the library can encourage better book reports." She suggested that shelves be set aside for the popular attractive books. The entire group should be required to read a few good books. The old fashioned book report is not desirable.

Talk by Dora Smith of the Minnesota College of Education on "A joint program in the building of reading habits among school children." By joint she meant the librarian plus the English teacher. She referred to the various studies of what children are reading. The librarian should cooperate with the English teacher. She suggested that the librarian could very easily discover what the English teacher was teaching at the moment. Together they could make out lists on the subject studied, such as *Ivanhoe*, and books like *Men of Iron*, *Gauntlet of Dunmore*, etc., could be recommended. They should use every opportunity to promote interest in books. Miss Smith stressed the importance of making it a community affair

through newspapers, women's clubs, etc. In schools where there are assemblies the librarian should have her share of the assemblies. In the fall she could advertise books for Christmas and in the spring books to be read during vacation. She discussed the system to stimulate reading of travel books by giving out passports to the children. (See *Minnesota Library Notes and News*, September, 1929, pp. 147-48, for Vacation Travel Clubs; Chisholm, Mankato, Virginia.)

Miss Smith discovered how little the teacher knows about the reading for children. Out of 115 teachers only 20 had heard of Christopher Robin.

About twenty-five to thirty-five were present at the meeting. The new officers are: President, Pearl Durst, Hibbing; Vice President, Mrs. Alice Shank, Biwabik; Secretary-treasurer, Eunice Hummel, Chisholm.

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Northern Division—Thief River Falls

The school librarians held a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Evelyn during the Division meeting in October. Miss Mildred Methven of the State Traveling Library was the speaker and a very attractive exhibit demonstrating the Pennington County Library Service was arranged in the windows of one of the banks.

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Southeast Division—Winona

There were about twenty present and it was felt that the meeting was profitable. Dr. Myers' talk was informal and very interesting. The round table discussion was quite lively, with everyone joining in. A list of topics discussed follows:

For what length of time may books be drawn?

What fines are charged?

How are notices sent?

Is reading for pleasure allowed in library?

Do teachers send list of library assignments to librarians?

Are assignment slips used?

What student help do you have?

Do you have a reserve shelf for books in demand?

What library instruction is given?

Are statistics kept?

How are records of attendance kept?

Are permits required?

By whom are book orders made? How often?

How is accession book kept?

Is each copy numbered or but one accession number given to a title?

Is each copy numbered on shelf list?

Are books classified according to state list, or are they more closely classified?

Are Library of Congress Cards used?
 Are magazines bound? Which ones?
 How long are unbound numbers kept?
 Does library close before school ends or
 does librarian stay after school is out in
 summer?
 Are posters used in library?
 What type of editions are practical for
 school libraries?
 How may a librarian keep up with her
 reading?

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Southwest Division—Mankato

Miss Baldwin spoke at the English section on Standards of Library Service. She emphasized the following points in the new standards for graded and secondary schools: (1) an adequate library, which means books sufficient in quantity, of high quality, and suited to the needs of the school; (2) the library room conveniently located to serve the whole school, with sufficient space and wherever possible in a room used solely for library purposes; (3) a competent librarian, who should have such knowledge and special training as will enable her to render the necessary library service, and above all, time to carry on the library work. The important task of teaching the use of books was dwelt upon.

She summed up the aid given by the Library Division in helping to achieve the standards as follows: (1) the preparation of the lists for school libraries; (2) advice as to organizing, equipment, etc.; (3) visits to help in solving library problems and (4) direct service through loans of books and pictures from the travelling library.

A luncheon was arranged by Miss Wiecking in the Teachers College cafeteria.

The exhibit of new books and fine editions in the children's room was unusually attractive, and was a rendezvous for a number of school librarians who came to talk over their problems.

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Western Division—Moorhead

A round table on library problems was held in the Teachers College library on Friday morning, October 18th, conducted by Miss Baldwin. There was a live discussion of hours of opening, problems of discipline, fines, etc., and a gratifying attendance of about thirty-five. In order not to interfere with the general program

the round table was limited to an hour, but a number of librarians remained for a demonstration of book mending by a member of Miss Hougham's staff.

An attractive exhibit of some of the new books to appear on the state list was displayed.

MINNEAPOLIS SCHOOL LIBRARY CLUB

The school librarians of Minneapolis have held monthly dinner meetings this fall, as usual. At the September meeting the office of chairman rotated to Elizabeth Scripture and that of secretary-treasurer to Alice Foster.

A somewhat definite plan is followed each time, but quite as valuable as the programmed topic is the informal but keenly interested discussion of local problems which always occurs.

The chief topic of discussion at one meeting was new books, and at another, recent and especially valuable vocational material.

The percentage of attendance is always satisfactorily high.

Alice Foster,
 Secretary.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Miss Florence D. Love, librarian at Faribault spoke before the Rural Section telling of the importance of developing county libraries and of using the State Library Division.

A book exhibit was also arranged including material from the State Library Division. The Mother Goose exhibit attracted much attention. There was a good collection of books on child study and training, groups of books for children of various ages, and some posters, and numerous pamphlets and lists for distribution. People seemed interested and there was always some one examining the books. It gave considerable publicity among Faribault people, for many said they did not realize that certain books were in the library and wanted to borrow them.

Plans are under way for spreading interest throughout the state through the Parent-Teacher Magazine especially by the use of the play by Mary K. Reely of Madison, "Bringing up Nine." This play may be borrowed from the State Library Division.